

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, Claims 1–6 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2001-93795 (JP ‘795) in view of Hisai et al. (U.S. 2003/192,686). Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2003-53741 (JP ‘741) in view of Hisai et al. (U.S. 2003/192686). Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable “any of the prior art as applied...above”, and further in view of Foglesonger et al. (U.S. Patent 4,998,584) or Flanigan et al. (U.S. Patent 6,081,414). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable “any of the prior art as applied...above”, and further in view of JP 4-338242 (JP ‘242).

Please cancel Claim 1 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 2-6 as set forth herein. Each of Claims 2-6 has been amended to include all of the limitations of Claim 1, and now each is in independent form. No new matter has been added.

Regarding the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the following remarks are presented to distinguish the claims from the art of record. JP’741 discloses that a cooling means for cooling a plate is positioned outside the plate, so an operating fluid included in the groove of the plate is directly in contact with the cooling means, and therefore the heat transfer rate is very slow. In view of this point, it is believed that the present application is distinguished from JP’741.

Further, in Hisai et al., the path of the running cooling water is restricted to only an inner space of the plate, whereas in the present application, the path of the running cooling water is provided in the form of the inner space, being buried in a part of the inner space or totally buried in a wall area. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is distinguishable from Hisai et al. in that the present application provides a path of the running cooling water to enlarge an area for transferring heat within a limited space.

Independent Claims 2-6 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 2-6, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell".

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